

Vaccines for Children Program

## 2022 VFC Recertification is COMING SOON! Start Planning Now

### BACKGROUND

The Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program's Annual Recertification is almost here! The VFC Program will be launching 2022 Recertification later this month. Recertification is a federal requirement that must be completed annually by enrolled providers in order to continue receiving publicly-funded vaccines. New providers that enrolled prior to December 2021 will also be expected to complete 2022 VFC Recertification. Providers will have until the end of January to complete the process once the system is available.

The following steps will help your practice get started and collect required information on the <u>Recertification Worksheet</u> ahead of time. Not completing Recertification by the deadline will lead to immediate suspension of vaccine ordering privileges and may lead to eventual termination from the VFC Program. Multiple warning communications will be sent prior to account termination, however, once a practice is terminated from the VFC Program, termination cannot be reversed. If interested in re-enrollment, the practice must wait until the next Recertification cycle and may be subject to conditional enrollment.

### PREPARE FOR RECERTIFICATION NOW

1. Wait Until Recertification Launch to Complete All Required EZIZ Lessons

As part of the annual training requirement, lessons will become available once 2022 VFC Recertification launches; therefore, do <u>not</u> start the EZIZ Lessons until announced by the VFC Program. Key practice staff must complete or test-out of all required lessons in order to meet VFC's annual federal educational requirement prior to accessing the online Recertification page.

Plan ahead:

- Make sure you allocate time for lesson completion as you prepare your clinic's December and January schedules!
- If your EZIZ training account is not already linked to a VFC PIN, you can link your account to a VFC PIN when logged in to the EZIZ Training Page.
  - On the Learning History page, click on the "Edit Profile" link in the "My Account" box
  - Click on "Link to PIN" and enter your zip code to search for your VFC Provider Account
  - Once you have located your VFC Provider Account, click "Select" and the PIN will now display as being linked to your EZIZ training account.

# 2. Check If Your Data Logger Calibration Is Up to Date and Meets VFC Requirements

The VFC Program requires that all digital data loggers (DDLs) used for temperature monitoring of VFC-supplied vaccines (including backup DDLs) have a current certificate of calibration. Having expired certificates of calibration may lead to vaccine orders being held.

Plan ahead:

- Gather certificates of calibration for your clinic's data loggers (including back-up devices).
- Check expiration dates. If any of your data loggers have an expired certificate of calibration, or will be expiring soon, make sure you send your DDLs for calibration services prior to Recertification launch or purchase a new DDL.

**IMPORTANT:** If your current device only generates CSV data files or Excel spreadsheets, purchase a data logger instead of getting the device recalibrated. New devices that only generate CSV data files or

Excel spreadsheets are not acceptable. For more information about data loggers and calibration, go to <u>EZIZ.org</u>.

#### 3. Ensure Your VFC Account is in Good Standing

Only Providers with active accounts in good standing with the VFC Program will be able to access the 2022 VFC Recertification form. Providers who have outstanding mandatory corrective actions stemming from a VFC site visit will not be able to access the Recertification form until the corrective actions have been resolved.

Plan ahead:

- If you have any outstanding mandatory corrective actions, please contact your VFC Field Representative to resolve prior to Recertification.
- 4. **Generate Patient Reports from your EHR or Immunization Registry** Actual patient population figures are needed to forecast the estimated number of VFC and non-VFC eligible children to be immunized at your practice during 2022. You must review and compare figures against your actual patient population data as part of your recertification process.

Plan ahead:

 Generate reports from your Electronic Health Record (EHR) or Immunization Registry on actual patient population served by your practice during 2021. You will need to report the total number of VFC eligible patients, as well as the total number of privately insured patients (broken down by age) in your practice.

### 5. Verify your Clinic Staff's License Numbers Ahead of Time

Contact information, medical licenses, and National Provider ID (NPI) for any new Key Practice Staff and Health Care Providers with Prescription-Writing Privilege must be reported.

Plan ahead:

• In order to ensure you report the correct information, we encourage your practice to verify your staff's license numbers ahead of time

through the California Department of Consumer Affairs website: <u>https://www.breeze.ca.gov/datamart/loginCADCA.do</u>.

• Locate NPI numbers through the National Plan & Provider Enumeration System (NPPES) website: <u>https://npiregistry.cms.hhs.gov/</u>.

#### 6. Gather your COVID ID if you are part of a COVID Vaccine Program

 New for 2022 VFC Recertification, we will be collecting your COVID ID if your practice is participating in a COVID Vaccine Program. It can be between 10 to 17 alphanumeric digits (e.g., CA123B1234, or CA1234567B12345). If you participate in one of the federal COVID vaccine programs, your COVID Provider ID may look different (e.g., IH1234567, or HR1234567). If you need assistance locating your COVID ID, contact the COVID Provider Call Center at (833) 502-1245.

If you have any questions about the VFC Recertification process, please contact the VFC Program at 1-877-2GET-VFC (1-877-243-8832).

**Resources:** 

- 2022 VFC Recertification Process (IMM-1277)
- 2022 VFC Recertification Worksheet (IMM-1207)
- 2022 VFC Recertification FAQs (IMM-1245)

Thank you,